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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The question was discussed thoroughly by the Ministers who were present, but no conclusion was arrived at."

Government Milk Factory, Madras.

* 511 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the cost of running the Government Milk Factory at Madras;

(*b*) the number of staff and labourers in the factory now;

(*c*) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table of the House, a copy of the report of the Expert Committee constituted in 1953 to examine the working and the future of the Government Milk Factory; and

(*d*) whether the Government have directed that there need be no compulsion in regard to the use of the reconstituted milk in hotels?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Rs. 3,41,828.

" (*b*) Staff—17.

Labourers (mazdoors, etc.)—23.

" (*c*) Printed copy of the report [a] of the Expert Committee is placed on the table of the House. The Government are still considering the recommendations made in the report.

" (*d*) Yes."

Chillies research stations.

* 513 *Q.*—SRI K. PARTHASARATHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the names of the research stations engaged in research work relating to chillies; and

(*b*) whether there is any proposal to open a chillies research station near Tiruvannamalai?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Research work relating to chillies is being done at the Agricultural Research Station at Koilpatti and Taliparamba.

" (*b*) The answer is in the negative."

Sago and tapioca cultivation.

* 514 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISWAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have deputed any officer to go to Malaya to study the method of cultivation of sago and tapioca there; and

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[a] Printed as Appendix IV on pages 678–719 infra.

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(*b*) whether an experimental farm has been started near Salem to improve the method of cultivation of tapioca and sago?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) The question of deputing to Malaya an officer of the Agricultural Department of this State along with the Chemical Engineer attached to the Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore, to study the method of cultivation of tapioca and manufacture of sago is under correspondence with the Government of India.

" (*b*) The starting of an experimental farm near Salem to improve the method of cultivation of tapioca was considered and dropped as a scheme for the improvement of tuber crops (sweet potato and tapioca) is already in operation in this State with financial assistance from the Indian Council of Agricultural Research at Mangalore and Coimbatore. The practical results that will be achieved from this scheme at Coimbatore are expected, in a large measure, to be applicable to conditions prevailing in Salem also.

As regards experimental manufacture of sago, it is proposed to defer action till the proposed deputation of officers to Malaya materialises and their report is received and examined."

10-30 a.m. SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, குச்சிக் கிழங்கிலிருந்து ஜவ்வரிசி உற்பத்தி செய்வது வளர்ந்து வந்துகொண்டிருக்கிறது. மத்திய சர்க்கார் அந்தப் பொருளுக்கு ரயில் மூலம் ஏற்றுமதி செய்வதற்குக் கொடுத்து வந்த கட்டண சலுகையை நீடித்துக் கொடுத்துக் கொண்டிருக்க வேண்டுமென்று மத்திய சர்க்காருக்கு நம் சர்க்கார் சிபார்சு செய்ய முன் வருமா என்று கேட்க விரும்புகிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I shall examine that, Sir."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Which is that part of the State where tapioca is most largely cultivated? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The hon. Gentleman knows that in his own district tapioca is cultivated to a large extent."

Health Insurance Scheme for industrial workers.

* 515 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a Health Insurance Scheme for the industrial workers of Coimbatore has been started;

(*b*) if so, the number of workers getting benefit under the scheme; and

(*c*) the benefits that are given to the workers?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) & (*c*) Do not arise."